

## REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-20 and 22-28 are pending in the application. In the Final Office Action of June 3, 2005, the Examiner made the following disposition:

- A.) Rejected claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-15, 17-20, and 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by *Dulude et al.* in view of *Tamada et al.*
- B.) Rejected claims 3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dulude et al.* as modified by *Tamada et al.* and further in view of *Epstein*.

Claims 1, 14, and 25-28 have each been amended to claim when a service provider has a transaction with a user, the person authentication authority issues the electronic person authentication certificate including a signature written using a private key of the person authentication authority, and the signature is verifiable using a public key of the person authentication authority that is stored by the service provider. The template is encrypted using a public key and extractable from the electronic person authentication certificate using a private key, and after the template is successfully extracted, the person authentication execution entity checks the validity of the template on the basis of the template expiration date when the person authentication is executed on the basis of the electronic person authentication certificate, and then executes the person authentication by comparing the template, stored in the electronic person authentication certificate, with sampling information input by the user on the condition that the validity of the template expiration date has been confirmed.

Claims 4, 6, 7, 10, 17, 19, 20, and 23 have been amended to correct informalities.

Claims 5 and 18 have been canceled.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and addresses the Examiner's disposition below.

- A.) Rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-15, 17-20, and 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by *Dulude et al.* in view of *Tamada et al.*:

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Applicant's independent claims 1, 14, and 25-28, each as amended, each claim that when a service provider has a transaction with a user, the person authentication authority issues the electronic person authentication certificate including a signature written using a private key of the person authentication authority, and the signature is verifiable using a public key of the person authentication authority that is stored by the service provider. A template is encrypted using a

public key and extractable from an electronic person authentication certificate using a private key. After the template is successfully extracted, a person authentication execution entity checks the validity of the template on the basis of the template expiration date when the person authentication is executed on the basis of the electronic person authentication certificate, and then executes the person authentication by comparing the template, stored in the electronic person authentication certificate, with sampling information input by the user on the condition that the validity of the template expiration date has been confirmed.

This is clearly unlike *Dulude* in view of *Tamada*, which fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed subject matter relating to a signature encoded/decoded using public and private keys of a person authentication authority and a template encrypted/decrypted using public and private keys of a service provider. *Dulude* teaches using keys to encode and decode biometric data, however, nowhere does *Dulude* teach Applicant's claimed subject matter relating to a signature encoded/decoded using public and private keys of a person authentication authority and a template encrypted/decrypted using public and private keys of a service provider. *Tamada* also fails to discuss encoding/decoding or encryption/decryption using Applicant's claimed public and private keys. Therefore, *Dulude* in view of *Tamada* still fails to disclose or suggest claims 1, 14, and 25-28.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9-13, 15, 17, 19, 20, and 22-24 depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 or 14 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 14 are allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

B.) Rejection of claims 3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dulude et al.* as modified by *Tamada et al.* and further in view of *Epstein*:

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Claims 1 and 14 are allowable over *Dulude* in view of *Tamada* as discussed above. *Epstein* still fails to disclose or suggest encoding/decoding or encryption/decryption using Applicant's claimed public and private keys. Therefore, *Dulude* in view of *Tamada* and further in view of *Epstein* fails to disclose or even suggest claims 1 and 14.

Claims 3 and 16 depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 or 14 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 14 are allowable.

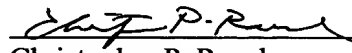
Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and requests that it be

withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-17, 19, 20 and 22-28 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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